

November 2019

# President's Message

Happy autumn everyone!

As I write this, I am looking at a Red Maple showing the first signs of change of the season. While I am not prepared for the chill, I love to be outside this time of year. I hope you all find time to spend a few hours to take a walk and take in the leaf show in the next few weeks.

It was good to see many of you at the recent member meeting.

Big thanks Clarence Rudat and Muskegon Community College for providing a great place to meet and to Dr Rigsby from Bartlett Tree Experts for coming over from Chicago to talk to us.

Dr Rigsby covered quite a bit of information on the two topics he spoke about. Tree and Ornamental Pruning and The Importance Of A Healthy Root System.

I have attached a few PDFs that cover much of the information in his talks. On November 13 we are going to be meeting at the Grand Haven Community Center to hear from Lawrence Williams from Manzana LLC where he will talk to us about 'H2A: Explanation and Staffing'. Lawrence was recommended to us by Josh Roggenbuck at Walter's Gardens. Lawrence has helped Walters Gardens navigate the process of seasonal staffing.

Until next time,

Keith Hogan

WMNLA President

## WMNLA Scholarship Application Available Online

Attention all High School & College Students in Ottawa, Kent, Allegan, Newaygo, Muskegon and Oceana counties interested in a degree in a Green Industry field.

The WMNLA Scholarship Application through the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation is available for completion online at : <http://www.ghacf.org/scholarships> Students should go to this page to see available scholarships and then go to the application tab to click the link to begin the E-grant process.

The printed and signed application, transcript and page one of the FAFSA must be stapled together and postmarked to GHACF no later than **Friday, March 1st, 2020**

All of these instructions are on the online application also.

For questions contact: Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, 1 South Harbor, Grand Haven, MI 49417. 616-842-6378.



October 9th Michigan State University Institute of Ag Technology hosted a meeting at Muskegon Community College. Thirty WMNLA members and guests attended a program presented by Dr Chad Rigsby from Bartlett Tree about shrub and ornamental pruning and the importance of a healthy root system.





# WMNLA Horticulture Educational Grant Program

WMNLA has awarded a \$236 Education Grant to Shettler School in Muskegon, Mi. The grant will be used to provide an additional garden bed for the Shettler School Garden Club. The Shettler school garden club has been meeting weekly since April of 2019. The club consists of over 20 third, fourth and fifth grade students. Garden club students glean gardening and environmental knowledge through hands-on experience with vegetable gardens throughout the school year by planting, maintaining and harvesting vegetables. Students experience a variety of vegetables they have grown themselves. Student gardeners continued to maintain the bed throughout the 2019 school year. They will resume in May of 2020 and again continue through harvest season.



WMNLA uses the Education Grant Fund to award annual grants to youth programs offered by area schools to promote awareness of the horticulture industry. This competitive grant program awards grants of up to \$500 to horticulture educational projects offered by teachers in our serviced counties of Ottawa, Allegan, Muskegon, Oceana and Newaygo during the school year. Applications are reviewed on a competitive basis.

The WMNLA Grant Fund has special interest in projects & activities designed to give students a better understanding of the green industry.

The advisory committee has reserved \$1500 to be awarded annually. Grant requests for up to \$500 may be submitted for projects and activities that enhance classroom learning and which require funds beyond those available through normal school resources.

***Funds are still available for the 2019/20 school year. Applications are available at [www.wmnl.com](http://www.wmnl.com) under the Scholarship tab.***



## WMNLA 2019/20 Programs

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019** Lawrence Williams, Manzana LLC, 'H2A: Explanation and Staffing' at the Grand Haven Community Center, 421 Columbus, Grand Haven, Mi.

**Wednesday, December 11, 2019** 'Invasive Tree Species' presented by Dr. Alexandra Locher, Forestry Dept., Grand Valley State University. at Opel Growers, 6275 Tyler St., Hudsonville MI. *Lunch provided by Opel Growers*

**Wednesday, January 8, 2020** 'The Oz Project', Allsion Jesky, Hope College. Legislative Updates Amy Upton, Executive Director, MNLA at Hope College, Maas' Center, 264 Columbia, Holland, MI.

**Wednesday, February 8, 2020**, Program presented by Michigan Department of Transportation and Michigan State Police at Michigan Wood Fibers, 9426 Henry St, Zeeland, MI 49464 *Lunch provided by West Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association*

**All meetings eligible for CPIG Credit**

*Meeting time 11:30 a.m.*

To RSVP: Text or call 616-402-4885, email: [wmnla2013@gmail.com](mailto:wmnla2013@gmail.com)





**WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 96  
West Olive, MI 49460  
616-402-4885

RSVP your attendance to WMNLA at  
wmnla2013@gmail.com



**Mark your  
Calendar!**

December 11, 2019  
Dr. Alexandra Locher, Grand Valley State  
University  
'Invasive Tree Species'  
At Opel Growers, Hudsonville, MI

**2019-20 WMNLA Board of Directors**

Keith Hogan, President, Bartlett Tree Experts  
Josh Roggenbuck, Vice President, Walters Gardens  
Scott Jacobs, Secretary, Specialty Gardens

Christina Hipshier, Treasurer, Grand Valley State  
University  
Morgan Temple, Member at Large, Spring Meadow  
Nursery  
Ryan Stehouwer, Member at Large, Vandenberg Hort

**“H2A: Explanation and Staffing”**  
*presented by*  
*Lawrence Williams, Manzana LLC*  
*at the Grand Haven Community Center*

*Wednesday, November 13th*

*11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.*

*At Grand Haven Community  
Center*

*421 Columbus*

*Grand Haven, MI 49417*

**RSVP by November 8th**

**Let us know you are coming so  
our hosts can prepare!**

**WMNLA member businesses &  
staff are welcomed!**

**RSVP to Pam Cater at  
(616) 402-4885 ❖  
wmnla2013@gmail.com**

**Lawrence Williams, Manzana LLC** will be presenting a program about the basics of hiring H2A workers. Lawrence Williams is the owner of Manzana LLC, a farm labor contractor that provides farm labor services to growers around the country. He provides labor services to a wide variety of agricultural clients, including farms, nurseries, and greenhouses. In addition to recruiting domestic workers, Lawrence utilizes the H-2A non-immigrant visa program to legally bring workers from Mexico into the United States. He has used the H-2A non-immigrant visa program since 2007 and has developed an expertise in successfully navigating it for his client's benefit. Last year his company brought over 600 workers from Mexico to conduct agricultural work. Members and guest are welcome.